July 8, 1914
Harvard University
Child Memorial Library.

ADVICE

TO

Mr. *HANDEL:*

Which may ſerve as an EPILOGUE to

ISRAEL in *EGYPT.*

GRiev'ſt thou, my Friend, that HARMONY has Foes?
That Spite and Ignorance Deſert oppoſe?
Reflect; true Merit always Envy rais'd,
Who felt herſelf condemn'd, when That was prais'd.
In vain thou hop'ſt to charm with Sounds divine
The Fiend, who ſtops her Ears to Sounds like Thine;
Deaf to the Charmer's Voice, tho' 'ere ſo wiſe:
The more thy Art to ſooth her Malice tries,
The more her Javelin of Detraction flies,
But flies in vain; her Javelin let her throw,
Superior Merit ſtill eludes the Blow.

IF *Vandal* Ears with native Dulneſs curſt,
Damn the beſt Muſick, and applaud the worſt:
If thou to dull *P——ti* quit the Field,
And * Bards inſpir'd, to duller *C——i* yeild;
Repine not but attend the ſure Event,
And with the pleaſing Proſpect reſt content.

THOU know'ſt the Rigour of *Egyptian* Law,
Exacting Brick, yet not allowing Straw.
Think on this Lot ſevere, and pity thoſe
Who juſtly claim thy Pity, tho' thy Foes,
By Hunger, without Genius, fated to Compoſe.
Pity th' *Egyptian* Darkneſs of His Mind,
Who gropes for HARMONY, but cannot find.
Nay, pity us, once doom'd Two Hours to bear
Such Sounds, as Thou haſt made us loath to hear.

FROM Day to Day thou ſhift'ſt thy flying Muſe,
From Day to Day the *Vandal* Hoſt purſues:
They cannot long; like *Egypt*, quickly drown'd,
Their own dull Weight ſhall ſink 'em in the vaſt Profound.
Thou ſafe, like *Iſrael*, on the promis'd Shore,
Exult, enjoy the Wreck, nor fear their Inſults more.

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* *Moſes* and *David.*